CPUC SEEKS VOLUNTEERS IN FRESNO COUNTY
FOR HOME INTERNET PILOT STUDY

SAN FRANCISCO, August 21, 2018 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the Geographical Information Center (GIC) at California State University, Chico, and California State University, Monterey Bay, in their ongoing efforts to improve the understanding of broadband capabilities throughout the state, are seeking 50 volunteers in Fresno County to take part in a pilot study analyzing the difference in broadband performance in rural areas compared with urban areas.

Interested volunteers can sign up at www.calspeed.net and complete a simple survey.

The CPUC's Home Broadband Study involves the distribution of 50 CalSPEED boxes to volunteers who will connect the devices to their home Internet routers. This is Phase 1 of a larger study; ultimately, 500 CalSPEED boxes will be distributed throughout California to volunteer participants. Eligible candidates will be chosen by the GIC team to ensure statistically significant distribution of the boxes. Boxes will be shipped to eligible volunteers after selection.

Based on its successful CalSPEED broadband testing and analysis program, the CPUC's Home Broadband Study will test and analyze the actual service quality being received by California consumers of fixed broadband services. The study will enable research on a number of issues critical to understanding the status of broadband service in the state, such as the extent to which various technologies and companies are delivering on their promised speeds, whether there are differences in the quality of fixed service in rural versus urban areas, and the extent to which projects deployed using state and federal infrastructure grants are meeting the required service levels of those grants.

CalSPEED is part of the CPUC's efforts to determine the level of data services available to consumers in California. CalSPEED is an open source network performance measurement tool created for the CPUC with the assistance of a grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. CalSPEED's measurement system was created by a team at California State University at Monterey Bay. CalSPEED mapping and measurement field operations are managed by the GIC at California State University, Chico. Statisticians at CSU Monterey Bay assisted the team with detailed geographic and statistical analysis of the dataset.

For more information about the project, please email support@calspeed.net.

The CPUC regulates services and utilities, safeguards the environment, and assures Californians' access to safe and reliable utility infrastructure and services. For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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California Public Utilities Commission